

Remarks

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 22-26, 28, 32-38, and 44-46 are pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 22-26, 28, 32-38, and 44-46 are cancelled without prejudice, and new claims 47-52 are added. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

After entry of this amendment, **claims 47-52 are pending** in the application.

Applicants thank Examiners Melanie Yu and Long Le for taking the time for an interview with their representative, Mr. Herbert Cohen, on June 14, 2005. Though agreement as to all matters was not reached during that interview, it is believed that the language proposed by Mr. Cohen for new claims was determined to be sufficient to distinguish those claims from the cited reference, Sneath *et al.* (US Pat. 5,264,344). The claims filed herewith incorporate the language discussed and approved during the interview.

The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 are rendered moot in light of the cancellation of all of the previously pending claims. Applicants request that the rejection based on §112 be withdrawn.

The remaining rejections in the pending Office action are all under 35 U.S.C. §103; though variously stated, each of the obviousness rejections are based in part on the Sneath *et al.* reference. During the interview, Applicants' representative proposed to distinguish the claims over teachings in the Sneath *et al.* reference by indicating that the substrates of Applicants' claimed invention are biomolecule-permeable and comprising capture molecules. As acknowledged in the Interview Summary, these limitations overcome the rejections based on Sneath *et al.* These limitations are included in newly added independent claim 47 and all of the claims dependent therefrom. The newly submitted claims are therefore novel and non-obvious over the cited references. Cancellation of the previously pending claims renders the §103 rejection otherwise moot.

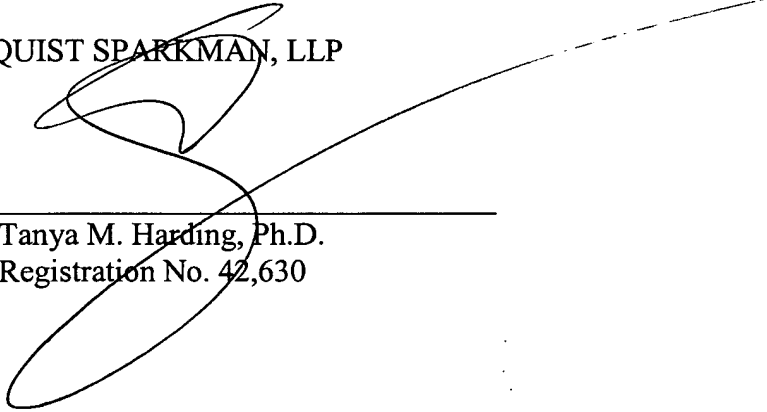
Conclusions

Based on the foregoing arguments, the new claims submitted herewith are in condition for allowance and notification to this effect is requested. If for any reason the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite allowance of these claims, please telephone the undersigned at (503) 595-5300.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By



Tanya M. Harding, Ph.D.
Registration No. 42,630

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600
121 S.W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 595-5300
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446